

more than 24 ounces volume to accomodate various thirst requirements. The valves where the dog extracts water are designed so that droplets of water are exuded rather than streams of water. This is so that there is no mess and the reservoir will retain water for a longer time. Two hours of water availability is a desirable objective in designing valve flow rate and reservoir capacity, as a typical outing with the dog can be had without the need of refilling the reservoir. A cord (7) may be provided by which the pet or a human may carry the dog watering toy around without exerting any pressure on the reservoir.

Referring now to Figure 5, an additional feature could be to add a noisemaker (8) such as a bell or rattle beads to the invention by placing them inside the reservoir where they will make noise when the reservoir is substantially empty. This could alert dog and owner alike that there is no more water in the toy. The reservoir would have its own wall (10) which may be but is not necessarily a unitary piece with the outer layer. Referring now to Figure 6, the valve (5) is shown in an embodiment by which the dog's tooth pressure physically moves a valve mechanism (11) into the reservoir (2). The valve mechanism has one or more openings (12) which communicate with the outside of the toy when the valve mechanism is pushed into (or out of) the reservoir. Water can then exit the toy in the direction indicated by the arrows in Figure 6. Return means (13) are provided to ensure that the valve mechanism will return to its closed resting position once chewing pressure is released. Figure 7 shows the toy in the closed resting position. The return means (13) have pulled the valve mechanism (11) down to a position where the openings (12) are blocked from communicating with the reservoir (2) by the wall (10).

At Figure 8 is a valve embodiment in which the valves (5) take the form of slits in the wall of the reservoir. At Figure 9 the embodiment of Figure 8 is shown as it would appear when the wall of the reservoir is compressed, such as by chewing. The pressure on the wall as well as the pressure on the water inside causes the valves (5) to be deformed into lenticular apertures through which the water flows in the direction shown by the arrows. The description above discloses several embodiments but not all possible embodiments of the invention. Equivalent mechanisms may be substituted for some or all the elements without departing from the spirit of the invention. The above description is not meant to limit the scope of the claims.

(h) Claims.

I claim:

1. An apparatus to alleviate pet thirst comprising:

a reservoir having a wall, said wall having a fill aperture and valves; said fill aperture having a closable openable cap, said cap when open allowing liquid to enter said reservoir through said fill aperture, said cap when closed denying egress

from said reservoir; said valves having pressure actuated opening means, said valves under pressure allowing liquid to exit said reservoir, said valves when not under pressure denying egress from said reservoir.

2. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising an outer layer enclosing said wall, said outer layer having an aesthetic design.

3. The apparatus of claim 2 further comprising indicia on said outer layer.

4. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a cord attached to said apparatus.

5. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a noisemaker contained within said reservoir.

6. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said valves are nipple like structures.

7. In Combination:

a reservoir having a wall, said wall having a fill aperture and valves, said fill aperture having an openable cap, said valves comprising bores penetrating said wall;

a valve mechanism shaped substantially to fill said bores, said valve mechanism being capable of alternate movement substantially perpendicular to said wall, said valve mechanism having an opening permitting liquid to flow from said reservoir during a first state of the alternate movement of said valve mechanism, said opening being blocked by said wall during a second state of the alternate movement of said valve mechanism;

return means urging said valve mechanism to said second state of the alternate movement of said valve mechanism;

said valve mechanism being movable to said first state of the alternate movement of said valve mechanism by application of pressure.

8. The apparatus of claim 7 further comprising said pressure is applied to said valve mechanism.

9. The apparatus of claim 7 further comprising said pressure is applied to said wall.

10. The apparatus of claim 7 further comprising a cord having attachment means, said attachment means connecting said cord to said apparatus.

11. The apparatus of claim 7 further comprising an outer layer attached to said wall, said outer layer having an aesthetic design.

12. The apparatus of claim 11 wherein said outer layer bears indicia.

13. The apparatus of claim 7 further comprising a noisemaker contained within said reservoir.

14. The apparatus of claim 7 further comprising a nipple like structure, said nipple like structure extending from said wall, said valves being located on said nipple like structure.

15. A pet care apparatus comprising a reservoir having a wall, a fill aperture, and valves; said wall being adapted to hold liquid and being compressible; said fill aperture having an airtight openable cap; said cap when open permitting liquid to be introduced to said reservoir through said fill aperture; said valves being slits deformable by pressure; whereby creating a net greater pressure inside said reservoir when said reservoir contains liquid and when said cap is airtight will cause said liquid to exit said valves.

16. The pet care apparatus of claim 15 further comprising an outer layer attached to said wall, said outer layer having an aesthetic design.

17. The pet care apparatus of claim 16 wherein said outer layer bears indicia.

18. The pet care apparatus of claim 15 further comprising a cord having an attachment means, said attachment means being attached to said pet care apparatus.

19. The pet care apparatus of claim 15 further comprising a noisemaker, said noisemaker being contained within said reservoir.

20. The pet care apparatus of claim 15 further comprising said reservoir having a nipple like structure, said nipple like structure extending from said wall, said valves being located on said nipple like structure.